



## ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

5 Doon Avenue, Syndal, 3150

Email: stctennisclub@gmail.com

### Social tennis etiquette, St Christopher's style

Whether the social tennis you play is self-organised or you are joining a session convened by someone else, there are some points to remember for your own sake and the benefit of the people you are playing with.

- Remember first and foremost, social tennis is for fun. For everyone.
- Acknowledge and assist the convenor(s) to keep play moving smoothly.
- Do your share to look after the courts – bagging and watering especially, not just within the lines but all the way to the fences behind the baselines.
- Remember now that no-one will remember tomorrow what the scores were, so don't lose patience over the occasional, inevitable wrong call (or call that looks wrong to you).
- If unsure about the outcome of a point, accept your opponents' call if it is their call, or be prepared to offer a replay if it's yours. Be generous to your opponents and give them the benefit of the doubt.
- When serving, call the score before each point, with enough time for one of your opponents or partners to correct you if you have remembered it wrong.
- Call "Faults" and "Outs" clearly, remembering that for your opponents it might be difficult to see whether a ball has hit or just missed the service line or the baseline.
- If you are sure a ball hit to you is a fault or is out, don't hit it back – catch it or let it go.
- Remember that we have neighbours – keep exclamations down in volume and refrain from swearing (out loud, at least).
- If there is a match in progress on another court, don't go into the area behind that court to retrieve your ball until the point in progress has finished.
- Try to find a joke or something to have a laugh about at least once every game.
- If in doubt about what to do on any occasion, choose the option that will encourage your partners and opponents to look forward to playing with you again.
- Be respectful even when you disagree with others.

If any issue arises you are unsure about or requires resolution, refer it to the event convenor.

Note that most social tennis etiquette is just as applicable to competition tennis, with the proviso that playing within the rules of tennis and the relevant competition set the context for play. And whether at home or away, when playing for St Christopher's we all represent the good name of the club and are walking advertisements for the culture of competition and sportsmanship that our predecessors have established over more than five decades.

Enjoy your tennis, and everybody else's.

On behalf of the Committee.

Jack Krohn  
President, St Christopher's Tennis Club

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